

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/442,627

Applicant(s)

RIGGS, BRETT D.

Examiner

Andrew Graham

Art Unit

2644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment received 9/30/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 11/22/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

  
Andrew Graham  
703-308-6729

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***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments, filed September 30, 2004, with respect to the amended version of the claims have been fully considered and are persuasive. The previous rejections of said claims has been withdrawn.

***Drawings***

2. The drawings are objected to because they fail to meet the following requirements of CFR § 1.84:

*§ 1.84 (g) Margins:*

Each sheet must include a top margin of at least 2.5 cm. (1 inch), a left side margin of at least 2.5 cm. (1 inch), a right side margin of at least 1.5 cm. (5/8 inch), and a bottom margin of at least 1.0 cm. (3/8 inch). These margins are not present in Figures 3, 4A, 4B, 5A-1, 5A-2, and 5B.

*- § 1.84 (p) (3) Numbers, letters, and reference characters:*

Numbers, letters, and reference characters must measure at least .32 cm. (1/8 inch) in height. They should not be placed in the drawing so as to interfere with its comprehension. Therefore, they should not cross or mingle with the lines. This objection particularly applies to Figures 2A, 4A, 4B, 5A-1, 5A-2, and 5B

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**Allowable Subject Matter**

3. Claims 1-17 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In the examiner's opinion, it would have not been obvious to incorporate at least the gateway controller, ITS data bus, and the IR interface of the reference of Kirson into a device adapted to be positioned or installed in a vehicle as an aftermarket product, as recited by independent Claims 1 and 9, when such limitations are considered in regards to each and every other limitation recited in the respective claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

**Conclusion**

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

A set of programming instructions (Steering Wheel Interface, model PESWI-2. Programming Instructions [online]. Peripheral Electronics, March 23, 2001 [retrieved on 2-18-05]. Retrieved from the Internet:  
URL:peripheralelectronics.com/periph\_products/cd\_changer\_autos/instructions/peswi2instrnew%20jc.pdf) discloses the programming of a device

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used for interconnecting steering wheel control buttons with an aftermarket head unit.

Meitner (USPN 5790481) teaches a retrofittable CD player system that enables original existing car radio controls to control the properties of an audio signal output from an aftermarket device.

Barnea et al (USPN 6396164) teaches a method for integrating OEM controls with aftermarket devices in a vehicle that also involves the use of a gateway and separate device bus.

Dunn (USPN 5999996) discloses an adaptor for converting the wired signal format of a conventional keyboard to a wireless format transmittable by infrared signals.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew Graham whose telephone number is 703-308-6729. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran can be reached on (703)305-4040. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*ag*  
Andrew Graham  
Examiner  
A.U. 2644

  
**SINH TRAN**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**

ag  
February 22, 2005